[English]

Sick Industries with BIFR

2143. SHRI DEBI PROSAD PAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4477 on September 6, 1996 regarding Sick Industries with BIFR and state :

(a) the details of the industrial companies registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as on July 31, 1996 from West Bengal;

(b) the details of cases out of the above which have been disposed of so far;

(c) whether any case of failure to comply with the provisions of the sanctioned scheme by the parties concerned has come to the notice of BIFR;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that 176 cases were registered with it from West Bengal upto 31.07.1996, out of which 130 cases have been disposed of.

(c) to (e). BIFR has reported that excepting following four cases, there has been general compliance of the provisions of the rehabilitation scheme by the concerned parties :

(i) M/s. Kamarhatti Company Ltd.

(ii) M/s. Shree Gouri Shankar Jute Mills.

(iii) M/s. Tyre Corporation of India

(iv) M/s. A.V.J. Wires Ltd.

In the above mentioned cases, the BIFR has inter alia, issued suitable directions to the concerned parties such as for settlement of issues, consideration of modified scheme, grant of further time for implementation of scheme and review of cases.

Salaries of NTC Workers

2144. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :
SHRI MUNAWWAR HASSAN :
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN :
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that salaries and other dues of payments like Provident Fund gratuity etc. are not being paid to the workers/employees of NTC regularly;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether salaries of the workers/employees of NTC have not been revised since long time; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make regular payments of salaries and other dues to the workers/employees of NTC and revise their pay scales?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b). Government have been meeting the shortfall faced by NTC in payment of Wages, salaries and bonus to their Workers/employees. However, there are occasional delays in disbursal of wages and salaries due to budgetary constraints. Since the availability of funds is not sufficient for payment of statutory dues, NTC has defaulted in payment of statutory dues, such as PF, ESI and gratuity. A total of Rs. 121.56 crores is outstanding towards payment of statutory dues.

(c) and (d). The salaries of workers/employees of NTC have been revised from time to time as per region-cum-industry formula, CDA scales and IDA scales as per the rules/orders. Government have also decided to meet the wage bill of NTC, pending approval of the rehabilitation package by BIFR.

Trade with Russia

2145. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's bilateral trade with Russia improved significantly in 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the target set for exports to Russia during 1996-97; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the export to Russia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. India's bilateral trade with Russia during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 was as under :

(Value in Rs. Cr.)

	Export	Import	Total	Growth %
1994-95	2534	1584	4118	
1995-96	3503	2853	6356	54

(c) No target has been set for exports to Russia during 1996-97. It is expected that the export level of Rs. 3503 crores to Russia achieved during 1995-96 would be more or less maintained during 1996-97 also.

(d) Both the Governments are interacting on regular basis towards inhancing bilateral trade and economic cooperation. Following the signing of the Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement in 1992 and creation of the bilateral inter Governmental Commission on Trade,